AIR commercial service for Gulf countries

423. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AIR proposes to set up a commercial service for the Gulf countries and strengthen its external broadcasting service during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the number of short wave stations with strength, which are proposed to be set up for the commercial broadcasts; and

(c) what steps are being taken to strengthen the external services in view of the fact that our broadcasts cannot be properly heard in some neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) two Transmitters of 250 KW SW each, with studios etc., facilities.

(c) In addition to the existing two 250 KW SW transmitters at Aligarh, 2 more 250 KW SW transmitters have been installed and commissioned at Aligarh during the 6th Plan period. Implementation of the schemes to set up 2 more 250 KW SW transmitters at Delhi and a further 2 numbers of 500 KW SW transmitters at Bangalore is going on.

THE schemes are expected to be completed in 1986-87. With the installation and commissioning of these transmitters, the signals on AIR's external services will be more distinctly and clearly heard in the target area countries.

Telephoto Machine at PIB Office in Lucknow

424. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the telephoto machine was installed at the PIB Office, Lucknow and at what cost;

(b) the number of days this machine has been used to take photographs and have those distributed to the local papers the same day; and

(c) the reasons for not making adequate use of the machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) The Telephoto machine was installed at the PIB Office, Lucknow, in October 1983. An amount of Rs. 1,12,594.00 was spent on purchasing the machine and its installation apart from insurance and freight charges.

(b) and (c) The equipment has so far been used only on a trial basis. It will be used to transmit photographs from P.I.B's. headquarters at New Delhi to P.I.B. Lucknow after technical arrangements with the Telecommunication Department for transmission of news photographs are finalised.

Construction of flats at Pitampura and Jehangirpuri, Delhi

425. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Middle income, Low Income and Janata flats which were expected to be constructed by the Delhi Development Authority at Pitampura and Jehangirpuri under the new Pattern;

(b) the names of the contractors of Pitampura MIG flats; what is the amount of money which has been paid to the contractors and the amount outstanding, if any;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the quality of construction of DDA flats at Pitampura and Jehangirpuri;